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Norrie McCathie Benevolent Fund Newsletter

Under-10s banish the winter blues

The Norrie's Under-10s squad finished the season in style by winning the Blue Brazil tourney at Lochgelly in late October.

The team, coached by Andrew Kay, started the round-robin tournament very strongly with a convincing 4-0 win over Elgin Star. This was followed by an equally impressive 5-0 win over the hosts, which set up a final game decider against Inverkeithing.

Once again the Norrie's defence, superbly marshalled by Jonathan Watson and Baillie Kay, proved too strong and set the foundations for a 2-0 victory.

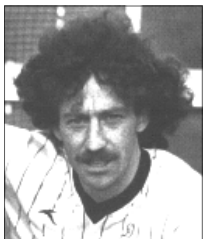


All of the squad played their parts in the day's success, with goals contributed by Greg Hazel ('Scholesy'), Jason and Sean Miller, Murray Thompson, Sam Glancy and Lee Jamieson. A special mention is due for Lee and Jack Stewart, both from the Under-9s, who successfully stepped up to the challenge of playing with the

older squad.

Many thanks are due to the Blue Brazil for the invitation to play in their tournament and their excellent organisation on the day.

As the Under-10s now move up to Under-11, their sights are firmly set on Haarlem next July!



Spot the coach?

Norries' Race Night beats the bookies



In a major fund raising initiative, Friday the 28th October saw the second Norrie's Race Night at East End Park. Around 90 eager punters turned up in the Kingdom Suite and enjoyed an evening's competitive racing, cheering home their favourites and, more often than not, tearing up their betting slips.

Everyone had their successes and disappointments, with Drew Russell one of the big winners. As well as being the winning owner in two of the eight races, he enjoyed a number of lucky punts.

Throughout the night, John Watson was constant in his support for Number 8, only to desert it at the last and see the big outsider (Number 8) scoop the pool. Ah, the joys of the turf!

The biggest winner on the night was the Benevolent Fund itself, which benefited by over £1,300 from the generosity of the many parents, family and friends who supported the event.

We'd like to offer our thanks to the many individuals and local businesses which supported the night, sponsoring races and providing prizes for the raffle.

These included: Raith Rovers FC, Livingston FC, Wilkinson Golf and Leisure, The Eastern Buffet restaurant, George Bell, TKR Solutions, Harry Fleming, Raith Rovers Ladies FC, Euan Pirie, Craig Morgan, McCreadie Glaziers, RC Ferguson Florists, Il Pescatore, Stephens Bakery, Eyecatchers, Fastrax, Almond Valley Organics, Cafe Fresh, The Little Gallery and DASC.

Every aspect of the Norries' is captured on our website, hosted by Refresh Design — www.nmbf.org.uk

- Norrie McCathie and his place in Dunfermline football history
- The history of the Fund and Development Squads
- Fixture lists for the coming month
- Coaches and players in the squads
- Events and latest news

If you have any ideas for items to include on the website or the newsletter, please contact Iain Brown on 01383 721987.



-15s unbeaten in the league

The 15s have made a fantastic start to their new season in the Forth Valley Development League, by going on an unbeaten run of six games. However, their Scottish Cup run ended in a second round replay defeat by an excellent Calderwood side from East Kilbride.

Graham Birse and Alan Jeffrey have been working hard on the players skills this season- and this is translating into some assured performances on the pitch.

Graham said: "At the recent SFA age group trials for Fife, the Norrie's



boys stood out as confident and assured young footballers. The SFA development coach, Gordon Forrest, was impressed at the standard of player we presented."

Unfortunately, the Fife side can't be composed entirely of Norrie's, so it was hard luck on those who narrowly missed out. But congratulations to Ruari Spriddle, Richard Hunter and Robbie Burns for the 14s (who play for our 15s) and Callum Robertson, Danny Murphy, Struan Maclean and Gordon Birse, who made it into the 15s squad.

Meanwhile, Darren Yeates re-joined the Norrie's after his spell with Dunfermline and celebrated by banging in a hat trick in the second half against a luckless Sunnyside Reds side from Stirling. Good to have you

End-of-season report—Under-8s



Over the past season, the boys have done brilliantly.

If they continue to concentrate and work hard on their development, they will really begin to see the benefits of the Norrie's football experience. *(Archie Ford)*

End-of-season report—Under-10s



Again this season, the -10s have proved themselves a very strong unit. They work very hard for each other and show a real hunger and desire to win their matches.

I think they're developing well and with the same attitude will continue to progress towards the Haarlem cup. *(Andrew Kay)*

End-of-season report—Under-11s



I've thoroughly enjoyed working with the kids since the summer, following their excellent performances in the Haarlem Cup. They've been working hard in both their training and matches.

We've started playing in a winter league from the 5th November, and the lads will definitely not be short on fitness, as is my style. *(John Watson)*

The Norrie's Under-9, -10 and -11 squads (for 2006) have been entered in the Norrie McCathie Memorial tournament, to be played at Pitreavie on Wednesday December 28. So, better take it easy on the mince pies!

End-of-season report—Under-9s



I've been working with the kids now for a couple of months and things are beginning to gel. The standard of the boys has impressed me and I have enjoyed watching some thrilling matches.

Hopefully, with the fitness programme on Monday nights and the six week skill programme on Saturdays, there will a lot more improvement to come. *(Paul Thompson)*

Fund-raising and social corner

The new fund-raising committee has had a very successful start with the money raised from the recent race night.

Several more events are planned over the next few months. These include a 70s/80s themed disco and a sponsored waxing, for which several brave fathers have already volunteered.

Merry Christmas



The main event in December is always the Christmas party for the development squads.

This year the youngsters (and the not so young) will be visiting the pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' at Carnegie Hall on Thursday 15th December (Oh yes they will!).

Please contact Elaine Gray or the other squad reps for details.

Come on ye Norries!

